

BARRE GAZETTE

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UMass Memorial opens Barre testing site

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – Last Friday, April 10, the Barre Family Health Center, an affiliate of UMass Memorial Medical Center, became a testing site for COVID-19.

Timothy Clark, manager of ambulatory and procedural services, said the testing site at the Barre Family Health Center, 151 Worcester Road, provided testing in the Barre area so people did not have to travel to Worcester.

Anyone with an order for the COVID-19 test from a UMass Memorial doctor is eligible to participate. People with the test order should drive to the tent following the cones and signs. The first step is to show the doctor's order, take patient information and register for the test. People stay in their car throughout the entire process. Once registered, the person drives ahead for a nasal swab by a nurse. He or she rolls down the window for the swab. The swab takes about 10 seconds. It does not make any difference whether the one getting tested is in the driver seat, front passenger seat or the back seat. Clark said Friday three arrived in their cars at the same time. It took just 11 minutes to process all three patients.

The site has a modular unit next to the tent where staff can keep warm when there are no people at the site for testing. Staff includes a nurse doing the testing, another nurse on site to assess the patient, a lab person and medical assistants.

Test results will be known within 48 hours. People will be notified if the test is positive or negative. If



A COVID-19 testing tent opened last Friday, April 10 at the Barre Family Health Center, an affiliate of UMass Memorial Medical Center, 151 Worcester Road, Barre. Staff hold signs that read, "We are open for testing."

positive, the health center notifies the Department of Public Health, as per policy.

Most insurance covers the cost of testing. Patients should call their insurance provider to see if COVID-19 testing is covered. Criteria for testing included patients with cough, fever or shortness of breath, patients who had close contact with someone positive for COVID-19 or someone with

See TESTING SITE, page 5

Turley Publications Courtesy Photos

The tent located in the parking lot of the Barre Family Health Center allows cars to pull under the tent to protect staff from the weather. The testing site will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



QRSD gives meal update

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District Food Service Department is distributing breakfast and lunch for all students in the district, age 18 and under. People do not have to attend a Quabbin school to participate.

Distribution takes place every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while school is closed. Grab & Go breakfast and lunch will be distributed from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Hardwick Elementary School in Hardwick and the Quabbin Middle and High School in Barre. Distribution will continue during April vacation.

If parents have difficulty with transportation for food pickup, they may contact the Central Office at 978-355-4668 or email school-meals@qrsd.org.

Town clerk lists election information

HUBBARDSTON – Town clerk Laurie J. Reed said nomination papers are available Tuesday, April 7 through Tuesday, April 21 for the Annual Town Election, June 9, 2020. Nomination papers may be picked up at the town clerk's office by appointment. Appointments can be made by email to tlcrk@hubbardstonma.us or by phone at 978-928-1400, extension 202. Callers should leave a message. In the email or voicemail, people should specify their name and the position in which they would like to run. A minimum of 20 signatures of registered voters in Hubbardston are required. Papers must be returned by 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 21.

RECREATION REMINDERS

Outdoor fun close to home

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Town Forest Park can easily be found and accessed on Route 67, where visitors can park and then roam the 44-acre property, which is about 1.5 miles from the center of town.

There is a pond, a place to picnic and barbecue, and access to the park and the pond is wheelchair accessible.

The goal of the Town Forest Park Committee is to make the park educational, with many plants and trees, and to make the history of the Quaboag Plantation available for the public, according to the town's website.



There are picnic tables and barbecues near the pond at the Town Forest Park.

There is plenty of wildlife and on a recent visit, a garter snake was seen traveling by a path. There were tons of tadpoles in the pond and plenty of birds. Pheasant feathers were found on the ground to the great delight of three young girls walking the park. The youngest declared at the end it was the best hike ever.

The Committee is working on new trails for the season. The trails will be marked with the level of difficulty from 1 through 6, with 6 as the most difficult.

Wildlife is abundant and there are many flowers that bloom in the spring and fall, many of which were donated by townspeople and the Brookfield Garden Club.

On the west side of the park there are marked hiking trails, including the Blue Diamond trail, which opens to the Wendemuth Meadows Trail on Bates Street, which is part of East Quabbin Land Trust's Wendemuth Meadows property. There is also the Ledge Walk Trail, which loops off the Blue Diamond Trail.

The Wendemuth Meadows property is directly across the street so visitors can visit two properties while they are hiking.

On the east side is the wheelchair accessible trail to the pond. At the pond, trout can be caught and kept, but all other fish are catch and release. There are also barbecues and picnic tables.

The park opens a half hour after sunrise and closes a half hour before sunset and is open to the public.

Information and flyers can be found at the parking area at the kiosk located on the lawn.

While no camping is available, any youth organizations who would like to camp over night may contact Joseph Holway by email at joe.holway@verizon.net.

Also if anyone would be interested in donating a memorial park bench should please contact Joseph Holway by email joe.holway@verizon.net.



Turley Publications staff photos by Paula Oumette

The North Brookfield Town Forest Park is about 1.5 miles from the town center on Route 67.

Selectboard changes town election date

By Ellenor Downer
Staff writer

HUBBARDSTON – The Hubbardston select board voted April 6 to postpone the annual town election from Tuesday, June 9 to Tuesday, June 30.

Town clerk Laurie J. Reed said there were 16 open spots on the election ballot. She said postponing the election would give potential candidates more time to safely secure nomination signatures. She said she would send out information about nomination papers. People may obtain nomination papers by appointment with the town clerk.

Town meeting warrant

The select board originally voted to close the Annual Town Meeting warrant April 6. The board unanimously voted to extend the warrant deadline to Monday, April 27 during a roll call vote. The date of the Annual Town Meeting remains the same date, Tuesday, June 2.

Town administrator evaluation

Select board chairman Daniel Galante said there were 11 questions on the town administrator evaluation form. He gave McLane an overall score of 7.9, which was a commendable performance. The highest possible score was nine. Galante said the 7.9 score was the same score he gave him last year. He said he was proud of the way he takes care of our town and he hoped that he sticks around for as long as he can.

Selectman vice chair Jeffrey Williams gave an 8.1 evaluation. He praised his hands on involvement with all departments. Member Pat Girouard gave McLane an 8. Members Richard Haddad and Kris

See HUBBARDSTON, page 6

Hardwick prepares for COVID-19

No cases as of Monday night

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

HARDWICK – Hardwick's SelectBoard, meeting on Zoom's web conferencing application, held a pole hearing with National Grid and took care of a variety of issues.

They heard from Board of Health member Tex Sarabia and Emergency Management Director Eric Vollheim.

Vollheim updated them on all matters COVID-19. He said to his knowledge there have not been any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hardwick or New Braintree. He said the town has received two sets of supplies, one of hand sanitizer and another of antiseptic cleaner, which he has shared among departments. He expects to receive gloves and gowns, which he will also distribute when they arrive, although the town already has some of both.

The town has been working with the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission as money to cope with COVID-19 comes through CDBG funds, which the commission helps administer, Sarabia said. The town has already received \$8,500 toward supplies, Vollheim said.

Cofske said the town has already created two funds, a COVID-19 expenditure account and a COVID-19 receivables account to track the funds.

Cofske said responsibility for is a task squarely on the back of local Boards of Health. "The state has put a tremendous amount of obligations and responsibilities onto local

See HARDWICK BOS, page 5



News of the Towns

Counting turtles

We would love to give you or your kids a fun little project each week.

Find **TURLEY** (the turtle) our new mascot within the paper. Have fun and count how many times you find Turley.

Email your results along with your name, town and turtle count from what paper to edowner@turley.com.

We will post your name and count in the following weeks paper.

Correct answers will be submitted for a monthly drawing and a chance to win a prize.

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Checking in on a friend doesn't always mean visiting.
 Lending a hand might mean washing yours.
 Most importantly, we've been reminded of the strength and resilience within our community.

As a community bank, we're pledging to support those around us in new ways. If you find yourself experiencing financial difficulties due to COVID-19, please reach out to our Customer Care Center at **800-322-8233**, or visit countrybank.com/COVID19 for more information.

Even though our doors have temporarily closed, we're still here with arms wide open (figuratively, of course).

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Food pantry distributes food during pandemic

Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

The Barre Food Pantry held its monthly **Wednesday morning distribution** last week. To keep patrons and volunteers safe, the distribution consisted of a drive through format.

Senior center director offers assistance

BARRE – Anyone recently laid off due to the coronavirus may call Eileen Clarkson, HS-BCP, CDP, MS, MPA, director of the Barre Senior Center at 774-764-8702 for assistance in applying for the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Have Something to Share?

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

Turtle count

The following people counted turtles in the April 2 Barre Gazette.

Barbara Kempfski counted 6 turtles.

James and Lizzie Laramée counted 5 turtles.

There were 7 turtles in the edition.

Grandview Tenants Association postpones raffle and bazaar

BARRE - The Grandview Tenants Association changed their annual raffle and bazaar from the beginning of June to the beginning of October this year.

Gardner Museum lists change in programming

GARDNER — The Gardner Museum continues to postpone or cancel all public events, programming and gatherings for the time being. Most events of our spring lecture series have been rescheduled to the fall: March 26, Glimpses of the white-tailed deer – postponed to Oct. 15; April 2, Massachusetts at Gettysburg –postponed to Oct. 8; April 4, Annual Smithsonian Day – cancelled by Smithsonian Magazine; April 9, Birds of New England and the Quabbin Reservoir - postponed to Oct. 22; May 4, Museum Members only: Annual Meeting - postponed to Sept. 14; May 7, Clara Barton - postponed to Sept. 17; May 14, Connecting with the Land - postponed to Sept. 24; May 21, We the People - postponed to Oct. 1; May 28, Hervey Bowden Essay Contest – cancelled; June 11, Plants for Health and Wellness - postponed to Oct. 29; June 25, Gardner's lost railroads & train stations – still scheduled for that date as of now.

Their planned Summer Art Exhibit, which was scheduled to start in the beginning of this June, will be postponed to next year, summer 2021.

Places to go... Things to do...

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3. Baked Cheese Ravioli
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2 Large Pizzas with Mozzarella & Pepperoni with a 2 Liter Soda

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\$14.00

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We wish everyone good health and good luck during these difficult times.

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 Friday & Saturday 10:00am-10:00pm

Round Town

Ellenor Downer
413-967-3505

Collector announces waiving of interest fees

The Treasurer/Collector's Office announces the Board of Selectmen adopted the waiving of interest and fees for any bill according to specifics set forth by Bill H4617.

What this means for Barre residents: Real Estate and Personal Property bills remain due for May 4, 2020. However, interest and fees will be waived if paid late, provided they are paid in full by June 30, 2020. Utility and Excise bills that were due April 2 will also have interest and fees waived until June 30. If taxes are not paid by this date, all interest will be added retroactive to the original due date.

Any tax bills due prior to March 10 will follow normal state guidelines for interest accrual and fee processing.

QRSD meal update

The Quabbin Regional School District Food Service Department is distributing breakfast and lunch for all students in the district, age 18 and under. People do not have to attend a Quabbin school to participate.

Distribution takes place every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while school is closed. Grab & Go breakfast and lunch will be distributed from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Hardwick Elementary School and the Quabbin Middle and High School. Distribution will continue during April vacation.

If parents have difficulty with transportation for food pickup, they may contact the Central Office at 978-355-4668 or email schoolmeals@qrsd.org.

A bird of a different feather

Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

Leif Johnson of Brimfield took this photo of a molted junco at his feeder. He said this is the second year that he has seen it.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of April 20.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. – Patriot's Day
 No meal served

TUES. – Hot dog, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit, hot dog bun, mustard

WED. – Braised beef, gemelli pasta, peas and carrots, Mandarin oranges, Italian bread

THURS. – American chop suey, broccoli and red peppers, corn, birthday cake, diet = small piece, Italian bread

FRI. – Ranch chicken, rice pilaf, spinach, gingerbread, peaches

*Diabetic friendly dessert
 **Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

Corrections policy

The *Barre Gazette* will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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Barre Gazette

News of the Towns

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
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Town election postponed to June 30

The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to move the date of the Annual Town Election from June 9, 2020 to June 30, 2020. This decision was made out of an abundance of caution in order to further protect office seekers needing to collect nomination signatures. Nomination papers are now due to the Town Clerk by May 12, 2020. For more information about the Town Election, visit: <https://www.hubbardstonma.us/town-clerk>

Town buildings closure reminder

The town of Hubbardston is closing all town buildings to the public until at least Monday, May 4. Offices will continue to provide services of the government to residents. The closure will result in the delivery of services remotely. All public safety operations will continue.

Egg delivery day changes

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed until at least May 4. The day for egg delivery changed to Fridays from 8 to 11 a.m. and produce will still be available Wednesdays and Fridays with pickup outside. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Note: All meetings are closed to the public and will be held remotely.

BARRE

Sewer Commission – April 16 at 7 p.m.
Board of Assessors – April 21 at 6 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – April 21 at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Board – April 21 at 7 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – April 23 at 11 a.m.
Historical Commission – May 4 at 7 p.m.
Felton Field Commission – May 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Council on Aging – May 6 at 1 p.m.
Barre Housing Authority – May 7 at 3 p.m.
Library Trustees – May 13 at 7 p.m.

HARDWICK

Gilbertville Water District – April 21 at 5:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – April 21 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – April 27, May 11, May 26, June 8 and June 22, July 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Recycling Commission – May 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – May 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – May 7 at 7 p.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – May 8 at 4 p.m.
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – May 11 and June 8 at 5:30 p.m. and July 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Council on Aging – May 14 at 9:30 a.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Board of Selectmen – April 27, May 4, May 11 and May 26 at 6:30 p.m.
Open Space Committee – April 28 at 7 p.m.
Historical Commission – May 2 at 10 a.m.
Conservation Commission – May 5 at 7 p.m.
Planning Board – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Library Trustees – May 7 and May 14 at 7 p.m.
Open Space Committee – May 26 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – April 16 at 7 p.m.
Planning Board – April 23 at 7 p.m.
Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee 2020 – April 27 at 6:30 p.m.
Open Space and Recreation Committee – May 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – May 5 at 7:30 p.m.
Board of Health – May 7 at 7 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – May 14 at 7 p.m.

RUTLAND

Ad Hoc By-Law Committee – April 21 and April 28 at 12:45 p.m.

GVNA HealthCare and VNA of Southern Worcester County merge

GVNA HealthCare, Inc. of Gardner and VNA of Southern Worcester County of Webster announced that they will merge to create a stronger more resilient community VNA to better serve the 98 communities that make up their catchment area. The merge brings together two home health agencies who collectively have provided in-home care to patients for more than 219 years. The new name of the agency will be Care Central VNA & Hospice, Inc. ...Healthcare in Your Neighborhood.

President and CEO, Elaine T. Fluet, RN, MSN, will lead the two merged agencies. Jacklyn Fleming, RN, MSN, JD, Executive Director of the VNA of Southern Worcester County will be retiring on April 1st after leading the successful agency for the past 41 years. Both CEO's felt strongly that this merge would be a natural fit, as both agencies share the same core values and love of community.

"We have created similar cultures within our agencies that will line up perfectly as our staffs begin to work together as a team. We felt that merging our agencies will create an organization that is poised to work effectively and efficiently in today's competitive home health market," said Fluet & Fleming. Combined, the two agencies will employ approximately 275 healthcare professionals and support staff. The agency will maintain their offices in Gardner, Greenfield, Webster and Auburn.

The merge was approved by the Board of Directors at both agencies and is effective April 1, 2020. Both Fluet and Fleming noted how fortunate the agencies are to be joining forces to care for our communities for years to come.

For more information about Care Central VNA & Hospice and their services, people may call 978-632-1230 or 508-943-0612.

Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

MOC CFCE temporarily suspended playgroups and other family events until at least May 4 Governor Baker declared a state of emergency hoping to contain the spread of the coronavirus across the Commonwealth. The Parent Child Plus program will continue to operate with your Early Learning Specialist continuing to visit with enrolled.

North Brookfield Savings Bank postponed its free five-week financial literacy program, which was scheduled from April 2 through April 30.

North Brookfield Savings Bank postponed its free homebuyers and brews homebuyers' night scheduled for April 30 at Oakholm Brewing Co. in Brookfield.

Massachusetts 4-H programs, activities and club meeting are cancelled until further notice. This includes advisory councils, fair boards, horse advisories and events. Groups are allowed to meet virtually.

Oakham Congregational Church will not hold Sunday worship service through May 3.

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed until at least Tuesday, May 4. The eggs will still be available Thursdays at the same time and produce will still be available Wednesdays and Fridays with pickup u outside. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

Friends of the Stone Church in Gilbertville postponed the silent film "Peter Pan" on April 18. Updates will be posted at FriendsOftheStoneChurch.org.

The Gardner Museum, following recommendations from local and state health officials and

American Alliance of Museums guidelines in response to ongoing COVID-19 prevention measures, will be closed to the public effective immediately until at least May 4.

Stage on Main, 17 South Main St., Orange has suspended all events until at least May 4 as a precaution against COVID-19.

Fobes Memorial Library in Oakham will be closed to the public until at least May 4. Library staff will be available to answer calls and assist with digital resources.

All Barre Town Buildings will be closed at least until May 4 to the public, except by appointment and include the Henry Woods Building, Woods Memorial Library, the Council on Aging (senior center), old Town Hall, the public safety building, fire stations and DPW. Please call an office before visiting in many cases staff is able to assist over the phone or by mail. Meals on Wheels program and wellness checks for seniors will continue.

The town of Hubbardston is closing all town buildings to the public until at least May 4. Offices will continue to provide services of the government to residents. The closure will result in the delivery of services remotely. All public safety operations will continue.

The Haston Free Public Library in North Brookfield library trustees decided to close the library effective immediately until at least May 4. Library staff will be on site for short periods Monday through Thursday to collect mail and respond to phone messages.

East Quabbin Land Trust postponed its 19th annual dinner and silent auction to Saturday, Sept. 19.

The Asparagus Festival scheduled for Saturday, May 16 on West Brookfield Common has been cancelled for this year. It will return in May 2021.

EQLT rescheduled its accessible trail workday to June 21.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announced that the opening of shoreline fishing has been postponed until Saturday, May 9. Boat launch areas at these properties will also open May 9. Shoreline fishing was scheduled to begin Saturday, April 4. At this time, the Quabbin Visitor's Center is closed to the public, though the property is accessible. Those accessing the property are reminded that vehicles must exit at the posted time. As of Feb. 25, the hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information visit mass.gov.

The Grandview Tenants Association has changed their annual raffle and bazaar from the beginning of June to the beginning of October this year.

Theatre at the Mount's (TAM) lists an updated list of cancellations: Auditions for "Honky Tonk Angels" (April), Art Spiegelman lecture (April), Acting "Fun"damentals classes (March/April), Beginner and Intermediate Tap classes (April) and Musical Theatre dance classes April). Events likely to be cancelled are: TAMY Awards Gala (May)and "Honky Tonk Angels" performances (June). At this time, "Newsies" auditions (May) and Summer Drama Camp programs (July) may happen. For questions about tickets, people may contact box-office@mwcc.mass.edu. For other issues and concerns, please contact Professor Gail Steele at g_steele@mwcc.mass.edu.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Town hall closed to public

The Oakham Town Hall is closed to the public. All public meetings will be physically closed to the public. The Oakham Police Department and Fire Department will always respond immediately to all 911 emergencies.

No church in April

The Oakham Congregational Church will not hold Sunday worship services through the month of April and Sunday, May 3 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Election information

Town clerk Chris Mardirosian announced the last day to register to vote for the annual town election is Tuesday, April 28. Positions on the ballot include: a two-year term to the board of health; one position each to board of selectmen, board of assessors, board of health, library trustees, cemetery commission and school committee, all three-year terms and a five-year term to planning board. Nomination papers may be picked up during regular business hours at the town clerk's office – Monday evenings from 6-8 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon. A minimum of 20 registered voters signatures is required. People may call the town clerk's office at 508-882-5549, extension, 305 for more information.

Fobes Memorial Library

The Fobes Memorial Library will be closed to the public through at least May 4 at which time the situation will be re-assessed. Library staff will be available to answer calls and assist with digital resources.

Mass. Medical Society urges smokers and vapers to quit

"The Massachusetts Medical Society has worked tirelessly to educate our patients on the dangers of smoking and vaping and in advocating for measures that mitigate the marketing and availability of products that pose a deadly threat to public health. Attorney General Healey has been an invaluable partner in efforts to protect our communities and patients, especially children. As physicians, we appreciate her issuance of an advisory that warns patients that smoking and vaping may increase their risk of becoming infected by COVID-19. We urge patients to quit and to consider doing so with the help of their doctor or by accessing available free resources, including 1-800-quit-now."

Easter drive up service on Phillipston Common

By Carole Gariepy

PHILLIPSTON – On Easter morning Phillipston Common was reminiscent of a drive-in theater, but instead of a movie, it was a live 5-Star feature celebrating the day Christ rose from the dead.

Pastor Stephanie Flynn had been mailing and emailing uplifting and inspirational messages to parishioners through this period of isolation and fear when the church, along with all public gathering places, was closed, but she wanted the Easter message to be personal. So, with the help of her husband Kevin and son Andrew, they set up a loudspeaker system in front of the church and invited everyone to come, park around the common area and stay in their cars.

And, come they did. It felt even more special than the usual Easter Sunday when the church pews are full and the altar is decorated with memorial flowers. The circle around the common was full, also the parking area by the library and the space by the school. Marilyn Holway filled the pots in the front of the church with daffodils and arranged Easter lilies, daffodils ,hyacinths, and tulips in the center of the common. Instead of standing behind the pulpit, Pastor Stephanie had the backdrop of the beautiful



Phillipston Congregational Church held drive up Easter service.

1785 Congregational Church. The setting was majestic.

Pastor Stephanie compared our quarantine to the period when Jesus was entombed, how a virus like this that so suddenly changed our lives can rock our foundation, a very complicated time, but she reminded us that nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from Jesus. We need to hold fast to the strength of love and to remember the Easter message -- "Jesus is risen from the dead," a promise He has given to us for eternal life. She prayed and gave thanks to all the people who continue to outreach and give their best to serve us; she prayed for the people who sick and for those who have

lost loved ones ... and she provided a long moment of silence for us to have our own personal talks with God about the requests in our hearts and the blessings we are thankful for.

The air was filled with the sweet melodic tones from her son Andrew's saxophone at the beginning and ending of the service. He along with Pastor Stephanie on her clarinet played accompaniment for the hymns.

Everyone needed Easter more than ever this year. It's an Easter that more than ever we felt the pain Jesus had when he died for us. It's an Easter that will never be forgotten.



Turley Publications Photos by Jane French

Phillipston church used a loud speaker for the drive up Easter service. People stayed in their cars and listened to the message by Pastor Stephanie Flynn.

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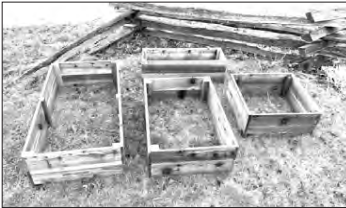
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Opinion

Column

An Easter like no other

This Sunday was an Easter like no other. One of my favorite Easter things to do is an egg hunt for my six grandchildren.

Usually, I spend several weeks before Easter purchasing items for the egg hunt. Easter after church I hide the items. I divide off sections of the yard for each child.

This year I purchased these adorable soaps with a plastic bath toy encased in the soap. When I saw them back in February at a store, I bought six of them. I was not sure that they would be available nearer to Easter. I am glad I purchased them when I did.

After the COVID-19 pandemic hit, I took advantage of the Hardwick Farmer’s Coop phone ordering and drive through pickup. I got six little stuffed bunnies.

There was no egg hunt. I dropped off the items to each grandchild.

Easter usually starts early for my family. We help with a breakfast at our church that follows the Easter Sunrise service.

Every year I make doughnut holes using a recipe from Grandma Ainsley, Donna Neylon’s grandmother. I thought about making them this year and sharing them with my family. I did not have buttermilk, one of the ingredients and I did not want to risk going to the grocery store to purchase it.

After the sunrise service and breakfast, we go home and get ready for the regular Easter service.

This year, our minister with the help of his daughter, Katie, taped an Easter service complete with some music she downloaded.

I missed the smell of Easter lilies. Easter morning the sanctuary is decorated with Easter lilies and tulips. It did not happen this year.

I spent time outdoors as it was nice weather. I took a walk. I watched birds at my feeder and had quite a few visitors. They included one female red-winged blackbird, eight red-winged blackbird, one male purple finch, tufted titmice, black-capped chickadees, white-throated sparrow, two grackles, two downy woodpeckers, one hairy woodpecker, two blue jays and one red-bellied woodpecker.

I remember Easter Sundays when it snowed, when it rained, when it was warm, when it was cold and when the sun shined brightly.

The COVID-19 pandemic changed how we celebrated Easter this year. Hopefully, next Easter will be different.



Ellenor Downer



In Past Pages

5 years ago (April 16, 2015)

Hunter B. Lindquist of Barre was recognized with faculty honors at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., for the fall 2014 semester.

The Quabbin girls’ varsity golf team picked up a win in their first match of the season as they secured a 45-9 win over Burncoat on April 13. The Lady Panthers got their best round of the day from McKenzie Ryan, who fired a 2-over 37 at Dunroamin Country Club to help Quabbin to the victory.

Nichols freshman Brianna Kilborn, of North Brookfield, went 2-for-3 with two RBIs as the Nichols College softball team rebounded from a 5-2 loss to Endicott College in the opener to defeat the Gulls 4-1 in game two Sunday afternoon. Kilborn also scored a run in a 3-1 loss in the second game of a doubleheader against Salve Regina on April 11. Kilborn also had an RBI single and a run scored in a 6-4 loss to Curry in the second game of a doubleheader on April 10.

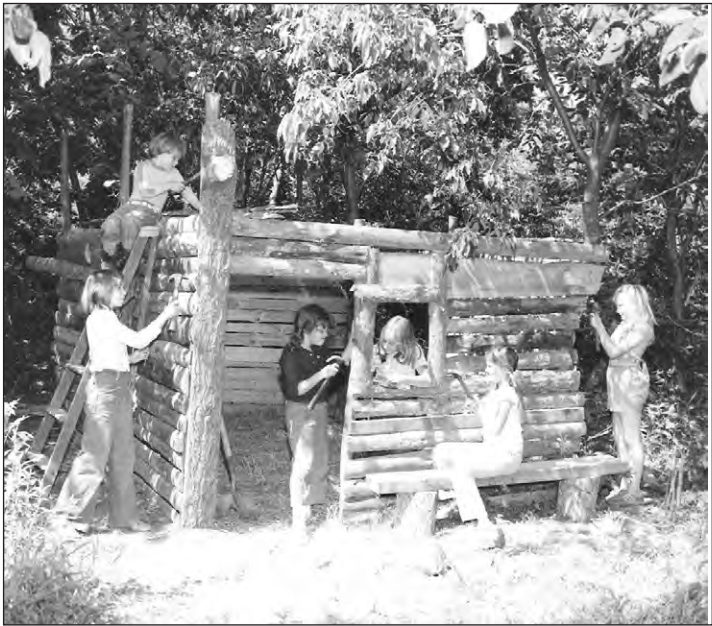
10 years ago (April 22, 2010)

Green Egg Robotics, the four home-schooled student team that won last year’s VRC Robotics World Championship, is returning to Dallas, Texas on April 24 to defend their title. There they will be competing against 412 teams from all over the world. The team is comprised of Leland, 14 and James, 17, Crowther from Oakham and Kieran O’Sullivan and Josef Ameur from Worcester, both 15. The team has been working on this year’s robot named “Fred III – the transformer robot” since they won the championship last May. So far, Fred and the boys have picked up 56 wins and only three losses in both local and regional competitions. The goal of Fred III is to pick up balls and put them on the opponent’s side of the playing field.

Jesse Cole of Petersham, is planning a cross-country trip in his 1916 Model T Ford to the west coast and back to benefit the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Jesse expects his trip to take about eight weeks before reaching Los Angeles, expecting to arrive in July. His return to Massachusetts is expected to be another eight weeks making a total trip of 16 weeks.

Eight Quabbin Regional High School students earned recognition for their entries into the prestigious 2010 Boston Globe Scholastic Art and Writing competition, competing against more than 3,500 middle and high school students from throughout Massachusetts.

LOOK BACK
Building 4-H Clubhouse - 1978



Turley Publications File Photo

Building their 4-H clubhouse at the home of Mrs. Peter Crone in New Braintree, left to right, Suzie Skowyr, Beth Anne Follini, Melissa McQueston, Heather Crone and Christine Dowgielewicz, with William Crone on the ladder at left.

The competition’s most prominent prize, the Gold Key, was awarded to 150 students, of which Quabbin senior Ninarose Dickman from Oakham, was one.

25 years ago (April 20, 1995)

Gary Votour said Mass Audubon Society has decided to sell the building at Cook’s Canyon and 1/3 acres of land around it to him. He has been caretaker of the property in recent years, and has lived in the house on the grounds. In turn, Votour will sell to Mass Audubon eight wooded acres he bought with the McKinstry property next door to the sanctuary. Votour said the canyon has been running in the deficit in recent years. This solution works well, both for him and Mass Audubon he said. Votour added that he will be continuing his series of interpretive walks at the sanctuary this summer and fall.

Webelo Cub Scouts became Boy Scouts recently in a special crossover ceremony at Barre Congregational Church. They are Don Stevens, Bob Rogowski, Mike Roseberry, Joey Flynn, Patrick Clark, Matt Stanley, Tom Donahue, Scott Duquette, Brad Croak and Adam Bassett.

Joshua Osborne of Oakham is playing “Sir Harry” in the upcoming musical “Once Upon A Mattress” being performed by the Westfield State College Musical Theatre Guild.

38 years ago (April 21, 1982)

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Letter to The Editor

Meals on Wheels volunteers deserve kudos

I would like to thank the Site Managers for ESWA for organizing and packing Meals on Wheels and for the great volunteers, who are delivering Meals on Wheels to people in our towns.

Barre Senior Center delivers to approximately 23 consumers, hot meals and also frozen meals on wheels five days a week.

Oakham Senior Center delivers to about 10 consumers hot Meals on Wheels and frozen Meals on Wheels four days a week.

Hardwick Meals on Wheels distributed out of Oakham Senior Center serves about 12 consumers hot and frozen meals four days a week.

New Braintree Meals on Wheels distributed out of Oakham Senior Center delivers to about three consumers hot and frozen meals on wheels four days a week.

Not only do the volunteers deliver the meals, it is also a wellness check, consumers may not see another person besides the Meals on Wheels volunteer all day. They are delivering for Elder Services of Worcester. They are all great people helping the community.

Sue Denesha
Barre

The spotlight is on early bloomers

For years I drove by this particular house on my way to work, and every April I admired a “sea” of tiny blue flowers growing in the lawn. They literally stopped traffic for a few weeks each spring then disappeared.

The tiny blue flower are Siberian squill (Scilla siberica). Singularly they are not much to speak of, but when planted en masse, they really stand out against the backdrop of a green lawn. Each mature bulb produces three or four stems of drooping royal blue flowers not more than 4” tall. Leaves are blade-like, a bit thicker than those of grass, blending in nicely with it after flowers fade. The bulbs themselves are quite small, so planting them is easy. Simply take a trowel and stab at the ground, pulling back a bit of earth. Sprinkle some well-balanced organic fertilizer into the divot and insert the bulb pointed side up, two to three inches deep, then close the hole.

Over time, Siberian squill will multiply in numbers by offshoots and seed. For a nice showing early on, be prepared to plant at least a couple of hundred. Remember too, that bulb foliage needs to ripen before it is removed, so hold off on mowing the lawn until it has yellowed. The lawn isn’t the only place where Siberian squill are at home- try groupings of seven to nine in a perennial garden for a splash of early color. They look great in my mom’s garden and return effortlessly year after year.

Another plant at home in the perennial garden is the primrose. They are plentiful at florist shops and nurseries this time of year. With any luck you may have

See in THE GARDEN, page 5

IN THE GARDEN

Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Easter and has come and gone and many watched their services on television. It was hard not being with our families, but I received many telephone calls from family and friends. I did spend part of the day outside doing some gardening as the weather was so nice.

I have been spending my time doing watercolor cards, watching television, baking, making face masks and cleaning the house. When I need to rest, I lay on the sofa and read. I presently am reading the autobiography of Katherine Hepburn. She was quite the gal.

Here is a recipe that the children in the family may like to help make during this stay at home time.

NO BAKE CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup milk
4 tablespoons cocoa
1/4 pound butter or margarine
¾ cup plain or crunchy peanut butter

3 cups quick cook oats
Mix together sugar, vanilla, milk, cocoa and butter or margarine. Cook in a double boiler for 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from heat and add 3/4 cup peanut butter plain or crunchy and add nuts if desired. Then add 3 cups of quick cook oats. Stir thoroughly and drop on wax paper by spoonful. It is a wonderful quick snack.

This and That

I made beef stew and had it for two days. I cooked it in a crock pot. The beef was nice and tender. Another day, I made a casserole of lasagna and that made three meals. Usually, I have just one big meal a day as I have gained too much weight this winter. I have a good breakfast and a light lunch.

The gardens are starting to show some green. I went around and edged the gardens and put labels on the things I want to make sure of the variety. Limed the lawns and there is a lot of moss this year. In fact, I made a moss garden wit some of the different colors

of moss. I also filled the broken bird bath with stones, dirt, moss, sedums and frog and turtle ornaments.

One of my friends that I called said she was letting the moss grow and she won't have to mow her lawn. That is a good possibility for my back yard. Living in the woods the sun does not come in to the back yard.

I hope you are all staying home during this dangerous period. We are isolated right now. If you have to go out wear a mask and stay at least six feet away from anyone. Wash, wash and wash again your hands. I use hand cream on your hands also. Be careful handling mail and newspapers. Ken lets them sit for a day before he touches them. Many are washing their groceries also.

The Country Hen is distributing eggs to seniors outside the Hubbardston Senior Center on Friday mornings now. Wear a mask and rubber gloves. Have a safe April.

TESTING, continued from page 1

a compromised immune system. Clark said an increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 was expected now through April 20. He

said the testing days and times may expand if needed.

Other UMass Memorial testing sites beside the Barre Health Center were the main UMass campus located by Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, UMass Marlborough

Hospital and Health Alliance in Leominster.

Clark said the Barre Health Center was expanding its capacity for telehealth to patients. He said, "The staff remained positive and supported the patients in the community."

HARDWICK BOS, continued from page 1

Boards of Health," Cofske said, "Everyone has to stay vigilant and stay away from people," Sarabia said. "We are keeping our heads above water," Sarabia said. "We've got zero COVID-19 victims in Hardwick. We're following the recommendations of the CDC and the state DPH, and hopefully we'll continue this way, Sarabia said.

He said he has been taking webinars with the state so he knows how to enter data into the DPH's reporting database, and Town Administrator Theresa Cofke has also taken the webinars and conference calls. Vollheim has also been taking webinars and conference calls about various aspects of preparing for COVID-19, with Cofke also taking those webinars as well.

Vollheim also brought some exam masks to Mary Lane and to the Ware Fire Department's ambulance workers, who provide ambulance service to Hardwick.

Cofske also said the Waste Water Treatment Plant workers had requested gowns so they would be better protected when they are working, and Vollheim said he would provide them.

She said she has also been in contact with town administrators and

town managers from other towns and she found it helpful to talk about ideas and what other communities are doing. "It's very helpful and very uplifting," she said, as about 90 percent of the emails she receives lately are related to COVID-19 issues or questions.

P.J. McDonald, head of Eagle Hill School in Hardwick, had also donated some face shields to the town.

SelectBoard member Julie Quink said she was wearing a mask and gloves in public, but was receiving strange looks for doing so. "I don't know how we get people to take this seriously," she said. In a recent trip to a local convenience store she was the only with them on.

Young said he had been wearing masks and gloves for the last three weeks.

Vollheim said it was important for town officials to lead by example.

Municipal Building cameras

Cofske told the SelectBoard that the front door camera at the Municipal Building, which will be include a focus on the town's new lockbox, must be in working order and a monitor of that entrance must be provided for the town. The lockbox is now provided for paying bills without coming into Town Hall, which is closed to the public, she said.

The Police Department moved out of the building's basement, due to asbestos and mold concerns, and are now in the Braintree Town Hall. The monitor is still being eyed by police since evidence remains locked up in the basement, but the Police Department said it would try to figure out a way to allow the outside camera to be seen from another monitor.

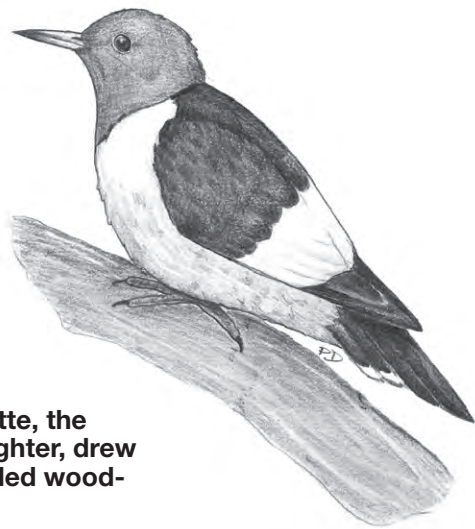
Town Election

The SelectBoard voted to postpone the Town Election again from May 9, which was chosen after the original April 13 date was changed to May 9. No new date was chosen by the board. The governor's order, which allowed communities to change election and Annual Town Meeting dates also states the changed elections must take place before June 30.

Land purchase

The board voted to support the Department of Fish and Game interest in purchasing land in Hardwick. SelectBoard member Kenan Young said the land was between Charity Hill Road and Harry Webb's property, which abuts the Quabbin Reservoir. The land would be next to land already owned by the department called the northern Muddy Brook Wildlife Management Area.

In My Backyard by Ellenor Downer



Paula Ouimette, the author's daughter, drew this red-headed woodpecker.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society received a report of two red-headed woodpeckers in South Hadley. The red-headed woodpecker is the only woodpecker with an all red head. The body and wings are patterned with black and white. This woodpecker is about eight inches long. It inhabits farmland, open woodlands, suburbs and orchards. Northern populations are migratory and concentrate in woods with abundant acorns. Besides acorns, the red-headed woodpecker feeds on beechnuts, other nuts, insects, bird eggs, nestlings, sap from sapsucker holes, fruit and berries.

Both the male and female excavate a hole in a live or dead tree. They will use birdhouses. The female lays four to five white eggs. Its common call is a loud "kweeer." It drums softly in short bursts.

Red-headed woodpeckers cache acorns, nuts and insects in small cavities to use in the non-breeding season. They will conceal the cache by closing it with slivers of wet wood and will defend it from other woodpeckers, jays or crows.

Audubon society

Other bird sightings reported to Massachusetts Audubon Society included a black vulture in Grafton, a barn swallow, marsh wren and gray catbird at Westborough Wildlife Management Area.

Bald eagle

A Petersham couple had a mature bald eagle the morning of April 7 in a tall pine near the house. She said her husband and a friend called her outside to see the eagle. She said, "He sat there for several minutes. There was a huge bird that circled around and I wonder if it was an immature eagle.

When the eagle was in the tree he had squawked at him several times and he flew away."

The wife said, "I was on my way in my car a few minutes later down the driveway and my friend said I rode right by him. I was wearing that awful mask then." Her friend took pictures of him, but she said it would be a while before she ventures out to get them developed.

Male cardinal

An Oakham resident had a male cardinal at her feeder around 7:30 p.m. She did not see the female cardinal.

Eastern phoebe

I saw an eastern phoebe last week. Every year, a phoebe rebuilds its nest on the eaves of my house. I also have a phoebe that nest on the outside light at the back door of my camp on Lake Winnisquam.

Birds at my feeder

I am still seeing dark-eyed juncos, but I do not have as many. So far, I saw junco on April 1, 2 and 3 and then there were several days

I did not see them. I saw juncos again on April 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. Soon, they will be gone and not return until the fall. They are my favorite winter bird.

I had a male American goldfinch that partially had his breeding plumage. He still had some of the olive feathers of winter with the spring yellow and black on the wings and top of the head. The other two goldfinches were females or males that had not started to change plumage.

Easter birds

I saw one female red-winged blackbird, eight red-winged blackbird, one male purple finch, tufted titmice, black-capped chickadees, white-throated sparrow, two grackles, two downy woodpeckers, one hairy woodpecker, two blue jays and one red-bellied woodpecker.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

AdCare providing telehealth treatment for substance use care

WORCESTER – In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, AdCare Hospital has taken additional steps to safeguard patients accessing outpatient treatment. April 6, AdCare began providing telehealth treatment for substance use care offered at locations in Worcester, West Springfield, Boston, Quincy and North Dartmouth, as well as in Warwick, RI. Patients can now access Intensive Services (IOP), Early Recovery Groups (ERGs), Individual and Family Treatment virtually with a licensed counselor. AdCare's outpatient offices remain open to provide services as needed.

For more information, people may visit <https://adcare.com/programs/telehealth-rehabilitation/>

"We are doing everything we can to protect the physical health and safety of our patients and staff," said David Hillis, Jr., vice president of outpatient services.

"Telehealth services are the safest way for our patients to stay connected to treatment and recovery," said Jane Jolly, director of outpatient operations. "Bringing telehealth services to our patients -- many of whom also struggle with anxiety, stress and isolation -- helps break down the latest barrier to treatment erected by the pandemic."

AdCare's parent company, American Addiction Centers, is also offering free virtual support

meetings for the public for those who need encouragement and a supportive community.

Experience matters. For nearly 45 years, AdCare Hospital, New England's only level-4 SUD hospital centrally located in Worcester, Massachusetts, with outpatient locations throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island, has provided individuals and families with life-changing alcohol and drug treatment. In March of 2018, AdCare joined AAC (OTC: AACH), a national treatment provider, operating facilities across the United States. To learn more, people may visit americanaddictioncenters.org.

IN THE GARDEN, continued from page 4

even received one as an Easter gift. Even though they are usually sold in small pots, it's hard to miss their brightly colored flowers poking up through basal foliage. They come in almost every color of the rainbow.

Many types of primrose make great garden plants; check the label to make sure the one you purchase is hardy before planting it outdoors. I have had a clump of primroses blooming for years now that started out as a potted plant. After enjoying it indoors, let it harden off a bit before planting it in the ground; a partly shady spot with moisture retentive soil is best. Mom's garden has a number of primroses in it too.

Typically they need to be divided every three years or so, evident by die-out that begins in the center of the plant. Simply separate a chunk from the outer portion of the plant and replant it in rejuvenated soil. I prefer to do this early in the season but it can also be accomplished right after flowering has ended. In the heat of the summer, and especially in drier soils, the plant can look a little yellow and ragged. Keeping it well-watered helps.

Expect blooms by the end of this month; they look particularly nice alongside late tulips and daffodils!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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Banks commit to helping small businesses with PPP loans

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Bankers Association announced that banks throughout the Commonwealth are working around the clock to help their small business customers during the Coronavirus pandemic. Institutions across Massachusetts are working with their customers to modify loans, waive fees and provide other relief to small business owners and their employees.

Now, local banks are working hard to implement the new Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which was signed into law as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act just last Friday. The PPP makes \$350 billion in fully-forgivable loans available to small business affected by the pandemic.

The US Department of the Treasury and the Small Business Administration (SBA) released additional guidance for banks and an updated application for borrowers, and banks expect the

federal government to provide more clarifications in the coming days. As a result, the launch of this massive government program may not work immediately for all banks especially those that are not already SBA-approved lenders. With the program starting, April 3, the Massachusetts Bankers Association recommends that Massachusetts business owners be patient as banks implement this unprecedented new loan program in only seven days. The PPP's launch could be a bit bumpy, but should smooth out in the days ahead.

"Even before the CARES Act was signed into law, local institutions have been working with their customers during this challenging time," said Daniel J. Forte, MBA President and CEO. "Banks will begin distributing these much needed funds to Massachusetts small businesses in the coming days and weeks and we encourage everyone to be patient as the program reaches its

full capacity."

Business owners wishing to apply should review the information available at: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/top-priorities/cares-act/assistance-for-small-businesses>. Borrowers will need payroll records for the past year, Tax ID numbers and information on each individual with more than a 20 percent ownership stake in the company.

The Massachusetts Bankers Association represents 135 commercial, savings, cooperative and federal savings banks and savings and loan associations with approximately \$380 billion in local assets, 72,000 employees across Massachusetts and New England, over 2,000 banking locations, more than 4,500 ATMs, and donate more than \$105 million annually to social agencies and charitable organizations across the Commonwealth. For more information, people may visit www.massbankers.org.

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Rutland. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, April 20. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week's edition. Dick Clark and Rosemary Horan correctly identified last week's photo. Last week's photo was the spillway at Connors Pond by Rte. 122 in Petersham.

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HUBBARDSTON,
continued from page 1

Pareago agreed that McLane was doing a great job and they hoped he stays another 10 to 20 years

Event cancellations

Town Administrator Ryan McLane said that the annual Easter egg hunt and Keeping Hubbardston Beautiful were cancelled. The next big event is the fair scheduled for the end of June.

Ragged Hill Road lots

The town administrator said the bids for the three town owned lots on Ragged Hill Road closed April 13. He said he had some interest regarding bids for the properties.

Commended employee

Town administrator McLane commended Jerry Parker, town custodian, for going above and beyond in keeping town facilities clean during the COVID-19 pandemic. He said there were multiple cases in town of COVID-19. A Department of Public Health (DPH) nurse was tracking all the cases. He said on the recommendation of the DPH, the town was no longer posting cases to avoid panic.

Safety measures

He said town employees are staggering shifts and not sharing vehicles. They clean all shared equipment. The Slade Building, Department of Public Works building and Hubbardston Library had full cleansing. The fire department had a deep clean with fogging. The building department recently did some virtual inspections. The library is holding a virtual story time.

Anticipated costs

The town administrator said added costs because of COVID-19 included sanitation services, police department with two officers on at night and two officers during the day plus the police chief and added money for Emergency Director Dennis O'Donnell. McLane said there would be assistance from the federal and state governments. He said MEMA and the National Guard dropped off supplies for the town particularly the fire department.

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PVIAC preparing for possible spring season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Staff Writer

REGION – With the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Board of Directors and the Tournament Management Committee highly engaged in remote meetings on a weekly basis trying to make decisions on the spring season, another body is getting ready to go just in case.

In the springtime, many athletic directors are making their schedules for the fall season, as high school sports usually finalize schedules a season in advance.

But there has been a lot of working going on the past couple of weeks to establish a new sched-

ule for the springtime.

This schedule would focus on using the modified timeline and try and to fit in a 12-game regular season between May 4 and June 12.

The schedule would allow teams to play between two and three contests per week in most team sports. This includes: baseball, softball, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, boys tennis, girls tennis, and boys volleyball.

Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton, a member of the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association’s Executive Board, said there was recently a meeting of the membership to discuss the spring season.

“It was a really good meeting,” said Stratton. “We had it remotely with about 40 athletic directors attending.”

Stratton said the main point of the meeting with the PVIAC’s desire to give student-athletes a spring season, in some modified form.

He did not say if fans would be allowed at games, as of now, but said if school does resume, a 12-game maximum regular season would be the goal of the PVIAC.

“We want to give these kids a season if we can,” said Stratton. “So the athletic directors have begun creating schedules, which have gone to the league and individual sport schedulers to be finalized.”

At this point, however, it could be all for nothing. Despite that, the athletic directors want to be ready in the event they are allowed to hold sports.

“Right now, we really don’t know,” said Stratton. “This entire exercise (making a modified schedule) could be a futile exercise.”

Stratton said under the current format the MIAA has agreed to, spring sports could open up on May 4 for practices with contests able to start on May 11. There would be five weeks of a regular season, down from the usual eight-week regular campaign.

The MIAA and the TMC have also agreed there is not enough time in the contract school year

to hold a state tournament, so the sectional tournaments will be the only ones held if the season is able to start.

Gov. Charlie Baker has mandated schools remain close until May 4. The commonwealth is currently in a time period being coined as a “surge” for coronavirus cases, though there have been national signs the social distancing and stay-at-home advisories are being effective. The TMC was scheduled to meet this week to continue discussions about how a tournament held in late June will look, but may not have the ability to make any new decisions until the state government issues updated guidance on school events.

Minor League play remains closed through end of April

SPRINGFIELD – The American Hockey League has advised its clubs that the indefinite suspension of AHL play will not be lifted before May.

The League is recommending that teams facilitate the return of AHL players to their primary residences.

It is still up in the air if most professional sports will resume seasons or even play at all in the case of Major League Baseball. The National Hockey League, and its minor league affiliates in the American Hockey League were nearing the end of their regular season and the Stanley Cup Playoffs would have begun earlier this week. Similarly, the American Hockey League would have started the Calder Cup Playoffs.

Springfield was not a part of the playoff picture last year, but was in contention for a playoff spot before play was stopped in the middle of last month.

Springfield’s play was dipping a bit, but the Thunderbirds were just a few games out of contention in the Atlantic Division. Springfield is 31-27 this year with three overtime losses (good for one point), and no shootout losses this season. That’s a 65-point season for Springfield, though it trails fourth place Hartford by eight points.

There has been no word on when play could resume. The most recent word from the AHL advising players to stay in their homes came on March 16. It’s also unclear the AHL would play out its regular season and then the playoffs, or go straight to the playoffs. The same scenarios are being weighed by the NHL and NBA.

Thompson named Specialty Man of the Year for T-Birds

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds are proud to announce that Paul Thompson has been named the team’s winner of the IOA/ American Specialty AHL Man of the Year award for his outstanding contributions to the Springfield community during the 2019-20 season.

In his third season as a Thunderbird and his second as team captain, the New England native has continued to show his commitment to the community beyond the ice surface.

Before the 2019-20 season began, Thompson was a regular sight at a number of off-season functions, including the Thunderbirds’ Street Hockey Tournament, which was born following the untimely passing of a young local hockey player, Alex Blais, two summers ago. Thompson also gave back to the youth hockey community of Western Mass., starting and running the Paul Thompson Hockey Camp out of MassConn United for beginning hockey players.

In the month of November, in advance of the club’s second



Submitted photos

Paul Thompson, Springfield Thunderbirds

annual Hockey Fights Cancer Night, Thompson lent his hand to share a deeply personal story to aid a cause near and dear to his family – his cousin Angela’s cancer battle and #AngelasArmy initiative. Angela’s Army makes “care packages” for patients undergoing cancer treatment, and was born out of Angela’s desire to assist other patients,



Paul Thompson, a member of the 2019-2020 Springfield Thunderbird was recently named IOA/American Specialty AHL Man of the Year.

providing comfort to them even as she was going through her own battle.

In addition to participating in a number of team events, one that shined through the most was during the holiday season. Along with teammates Ethan Prow, Rob O’Gara and Tommy Cross, Thompson led a selfless journey to brighten the lives of a mother and two young children

who suddenly had to endure the passing of their father just weeks before the Christmas holiday. The captain and his teammates spent hundreds of dollars on toys and essential items to make the family feel special during their most trying time. The story was documented by Western Mass News and can be seen here

Thompson is now one of 31 finalists for the AHL’s 2019-20

Yanick Dupre Memorial Award, honoring the overall IOA/ American Specialty AHL Man of the Year. The league award is named after the former Hershey Bears forward and AHL All-Star who died in 1997 following a 16-month battle with leukemia. The winner of the Yanick Dupre Memorial Award will be announced by the American Hockey League at a later date.

Sign-ups ongoing for Quabbin League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch.

The cost of the league this season is \$192. For returning players, sign-ups are extended through May 1. New players can also sign up through this date with the draft currently set for May 2. The league hopes to begin play in early June.

The season is 15 regular season games plus at least one play-off game. A modified schedule is being worked on by league officials. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass.

For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

Athlete gives back during virus pandemic

WESTFIELD – With the NCAA spring sports seasons KO’d by the COVID-19 pandemic, Westfield State junior softball outfielder Sarah Meunier (Deerfield, Mass./Frontier) has repurposed her time in a positive way – making cloth facemasks for family, friends and others who wish to wear them to help prevent the spread of the virus.

“The masks I am making are not N-95 masks, which are preferred by healthcare workers,” said Meunier. “N-95 masks can’t be made at home, but the ones I am making are a good alternative when the N-95 masks are not available.”

The CDC recently released recommendations on their website that the ‘CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.’

Majoring in movement science with a health science double-major, Meunier plans to attend a physician’s assistant program after completing her undergraduate degree.

“My grandmother volunteers at the hospital, that’s probably how it started,” said Meunier of her interest in the healthcare field.

“I’m taking ‘Medical Ethics’ as a class right now with professor Sladyk, and we all needed to come up with projects that we could do ourselves, and I asked her about the masks and she approved of it,” said Meunier.

“I’m really re-learning to sew again in the process. I used to do it more when I was younger. The first few masks took a few tries. I had worked on some comfort quilts with my grandmother in the past.”

“I don’t really have a goal on how many I’ll make,” said Meunier, who said she’s probably made 100 so far, and is now starting to make smaller sizes for children.

“We had a team Zoom meeting, and she was cutting out fabric while we talked,” said Westfield State softball coach Colleen Bannister. “It’s just another way she can give of herself,” noting that Meunier gave several of the masks to Bannister for her elderly parents to use.

“Sarah loves community service and understands that it feels good to give. Anything that our team does with community service, she’s in giving 100 percent,” said Bannister.

Meunier volunteers at Baystate Franklin Hospital when she is at home in Deerfield, Mass., and at Baystate Noble Hospital in

Westfield while she’s at school. She’s filled a variety of roles at the two hospitals, but said her favorite is that of ‘baby cuddler’ at Franklin, helping monitor some of the newborn babies.

While Westfield State has moved all classes to on-line and alternative delivery for the spring, Meunier said she is handling the break from campus, and the social distancing directives well. “It’s good. I’m very schedule oriented. I manage my time pretty well, and take pride in doing that. The time that I’m not spending studying I’m using to make masks, work out and practice.”

“She loves making things happen behind the scenes,” said Bannister. “She really inspired more teammates to work out before preseason so that the team came into the year in better shape this year.”

As a softball player, “Sarah just kept working and working, and her swing was so natural, we had to find a place in the field for her to play,” said Bannister. We knew she wasn’t going to be a shortstop for us, but we needed to reward her hard work with playing time, and she really worked at playing left field.”

Meunier hit .333 with two home runs, five doubles, and 18 RBI as a sophomore in 2019. She stood out in conference play

where she batted .471 with five doubles and 15 RBI in 13 league contests before being named second-team all-Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Meunier says she misses the routine of playing softball a lot.

“It’s hard going from playing every day in the spring to not at all,” she said. “It’s a beautiful day outside today and I’d expect to be outside for softball. It was sad coming home from Florida.” The Owls’ annual spring 10-game trip was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I’m lucky that around my home there are some good loops for walking and running, and some trails for hiking. I have a bow net and brought my bat home, so I have been able to work on hitting a little, and my sister used to play softball so she will throw with me.”

Meunier said that Westfield State’s physician’s assistant program will be her first choice. She plans to pursue a gap year after graduation to work in the medical field to accumulate the working hours necessary for admission to the program. She hopes to start working as a CNA this summer.

“I just want to work to contribute, I want to help be there for people,” said Meunier. “I don’t like to stand by watching.”

Valley Wheel Baseball looking for new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch.

The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother’s Day Saturday game in early May.

However, due to the current circumstances, the league schedule has been pushed back. The league still plans to play its season once bans on gatherings are lifted. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends.

If interested in trying out, go to www.valleywheelbaseball.com. The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site.

For further information, you can contact the league’s commissioner, Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be taking place in the early weeks of April, weather permitting, with a draft following the tryouts.

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Security benefits for certain debts, including federal student loan debt cosigned by retirees. According to the Federal Reserve, Americans over 50 hold \$260 billion in student loan debt. Benefits can be garnished for court-ordered child support or alimony, or for debts owed to the government. For many seniors, however, their monthly Social Security check is both a critical part of, and indeed the safety net, of their income and financial situation. We believe Social Security benefits should be protected from garnishment by any party, including the federal government.

need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

For the 2019-2020 academic year, the HCC Foundation awarded \$223,000 in scholarships to 231 students.

To begin the application process, students should go to www.hcc.edu/scholarships. Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182 or Donahue 170 on the HCC campus, 303 Homestead Avenue.

Since its founding, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards nearly \$1 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, people may visit www.phikappaphi.org.



Local pastors offer sermons

Note: The Barre Gazette staff reached out to area churches if they would provide sermons during the Coronavirus pandemic. Any pastor, priest or rabbi wishing to participate may email either barrenews@turley.com or edowner@turley.com.

“Do not be afraid... Christ is Risen!”

Scripture Reading:
Matthew 28 v 1-10

Grace and peace to you, dear members and friends of the Barre Congregational Church, and happy Easter to you! I hope all is well with you and your loved ones. Today we bring you this written sermon, but we have also recorded our whole service, with beautiful music, which you will have received as a YouTube link via email this morning, and you can also watch it on the church's Facebook Page. I ask that we again join many Christians around the world today in prayer, asking for God's mercy and protection against the Coronavirus pandemic.

I. Introduction:

During the last number of weeks, we have reflected on the journey of Jesus to the cross, and on Good Friday we remembered His crucifixion. While we weren't able to be together for our usual Maundy Thursday service with its somber and beautiful atmosphere, I hope you've been able to take some time to reflect on this Holy week and its importance for us as Christians.

And so...thinking about the cross and the painful circumstances surrounding it, makes the

resurrection story so incredibly powerful. We all know that the grave represents the end of our physical lives here on earth. It is about goodbyes, and tears and sorrow. It is about life without the person or persons. It is different, and it can be a devastating path for a while, but it can also bring new hope and new beginnings. The crucifixion of Christ was the kind of death that left an enormous hole in the lives of His disciples, and the crowds who got to know Him. It was awful, and shameful, and public, and difficult...gut-wrenching. That is why we celebrate the resurrection, because of its divine power that transcends death and destruction and brings us a message of life and hope.

II. The Empty tomb. He is not here...He is risen!

We read at the end of Mathew 27 how the Chief Priests and Pharisees brought their concerns to Pontius Pilate about this Jesus who told the people He will rise again on the third day. They asked Pilate for extra security, so they made sure they had guards at the tomb, as well as sealing the door of the tomb. There would be no way for Jesus to escape, or rise on the third day, as He told those around Him.

The Gospels share with us how, after the Sabbath, the women went early in the morning to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. They were still crying and filled with sorrow. The burial was on Friday, but they wanted to follow their tradition, by anointing His Body. They obviously did not think about His words regarding the Resurrection, so when they arrived at the tomb, they found it was empty!

The women, as well as the disciples of Jesus left the crucifixion scene and went home wondering how they would continue their lives without Him. The death of Jesus seemed to be the end of their hopes. It was a time of loss and grief, an inti climax of the journey they've been experiencing with Him. It was also a dangerous time for them, because those who crucified their Lord, would also persecute them.

We see two brave women in this passage -- brave, because it was not part of the Jewish tradition for even one woman to walk around that early in the morning by herself. We see them encounter an angel at the scene, sitting on the stone, which he rolled away from the entrance of the tomb. They immediately realized that something was wrong. “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen from the dead, just as He said,” said the angel. The women saw the empty tomb, and they realized something powerful had happened. This angel sitting here looked so bright and awesome and talked to them about their Jesus Who had risen, just as He said, Jesus' words came back to them as they tried to concentrate on the instructions of the angel to go and tell the disciples what happened, and that Jesus will meet them at Galilee.

The women left to bring this message of the angel to the disci-

ples, when again, they hear.

“Do not be afraid...” This time round it was the voice of Jesus, greeting them. They fell to His feet with joy and worshipped Him.

This occurrence on the third day is described in very dramatic terms: we see the description of a violent earthquake in connection with the appearance of the angel; we see the guards who were supposed to take care of the tomb, so afraid. They looked like dead men themselves, taking care of the living Christ

III. Easter is about the power of God over death, of life and courage.

Easter is about an empty tomb, about the power of God to do powerful things. It is about the miraculous intervention of God Almighty, Whose power overcomes death and all tragedies, a power that breaks into the lives of humanity in ways we cannot even imagine.

The disciples would not go back to their old lives. They would not become fishermen again; they would not go back to their lives and jobs they had. This empty tomb meant their lives would be changed in a completely different way.

The empty tomb is about life, not death! The Greek language used in the gospels for being risen, indicate that He arose, so they would not return to the life they were used to. He Himself will never die again. His is a new life in God, and their lives would be filled with the life and courage of the Holy Spirit to do different and great things...spreading the Good news of the Gospel to other parts of their world.

IV. Do not be afraid, because we have an Easter faith.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis of our faith. So, when we confess our faith, we say we believe in God Almighty, Jesus Christ, the Risen Son, and the Holy Spirit. That means we declare that God is with us in the risen Son, in the church, with our families, and in this life with all its challenges! That means we do not have to be afraid, because we have our

Living God in the risen Christ and the Holy Spirit with us always. This is the key to our life in Christ. This is the point of the Resurrection.

If we allow Christ to live and breathe and speak through us, we have the hope and

knowledge that we will experience the power of Easter in our own lives, and in everything we go through right now. We will have Christ encouraging us to not be afraid, and we will have the Spirit of Christ who will pray with and through us.

And so, we have an Easter faith that is beyond our fears, our despair, our struggles. Our

Easter faith has confidence in a God that has the potential far beyond our existing realities, far beyond death, with Whom all is possible, in life and death.

It is my prayer that all of us will remember that our faith is in the Christ, Who was risen by our Living God.

Have a blessed and safe Easter Sunday. Amen

Pastor Margaret Keyser

Barre Congregational Church

WHAT IF?

Scripture repeatedly puts forth an unequivocal truth: “God raised him [Jesus Christ] from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him” (Acts 2:24). This is the heart of the Easter holiday, which we just celebrated!

It is impossible for me—as a minister—to exaggerate the significance of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a foundational reality upon which the superstructure of the faith rests, and the basis for what Christians believe.

Yet to this I ask the following: “What if it never happened?” In other words, what if Jesus never rose from death and was demonstrably still in the grave? What if the happenings of Easter Sunday never actually happened? These are not trivial questions. Rather, they are weighty and worthy of honest consideration.

For many, this will prove difficult to quickly answer. As we will note, far too many dominoes begin to fall if Christ is still in the grave. Thankfully, the Bible does provide an answer to such a scenario (penned by the apostle Paul to the ancient church at Corinth).

1 Corinthians 15:12-19

12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching

is useless and so is your faith. 15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Herein the apostle Paul highlights a series of implications if Christ has not been raised. Consider the following:

1) Verse 14a – If Christ has not been raised, the preaching of the gospel is useless (i.e., empty, futile and pointless). The hallmark message of the Church of Jesus Christ since its inception has been Christ Crucified and Resurrected. We proclaim a living—not a dead—Savior. One who is able to save, restore, transform, provide, protect and beyond. But this message comes to naught if the Savior Himself is truly dead.

2) Verse 14b – If Christ has not been raised, our faith is also useless. Consider the various things that people trust the Lord for (e.g., salvation, healing, provision, guidance, etc.). Each and every one of these things hinge upon His being alive and well. Remove a living Jesus and what exactly are we trusting in? Who—precisely—are we praying to and through?

3) Verse 15a – If Christ has not been raised, the Church must contend with a myriad of credibility issues. The apostles and early disciples of Christ claimed that Jesus was. If His Resurrection did not occur, this would put everything they taught into dispute. They must (rightfully) be deemed false witnesses! Moreover, every believer throughout space and time who proclaimed a living Jesus must also be deemed an unreliable witness.

4) Verse 17 – If Christ has not been raised, we are still in our sins. We must realize that people are not saved purely by the death of Christ, but also by His Resurrection. His Resurrection was God's validation that His sacrifice was acceptable and sufficient to pay for the sins of humanity. Without the Resurrection we have no certainty that God has made a way for us to enter heaven through Christ. Ultimately, if Christ could not save Himself, what hope is there that He can save us?

5) Verse 18 – If Christ has not been raised, the dead in Christ are truly lost. This is a particularly painful point to consider. We gather comfort from the fact that dead believers are ushered into heavenly glory. We also gather joy in knowing that we shall see them again when our time comes. I have lost loved ones that I can't wait to see again! But if Christ was not raised, this sense of comfort and joy is all for nothing. Dead believers are not with Christ but separated from God for all eternity. There is no home-going or reunion to take place across death's shores—only the certainty of judgment.

6) Verse 19 – If Christ has not been raised, those who trust in Him are to be most pitied. Christians sacrifice and endure hardship because we believe that Christ will make it worthwhile in the end. Heaven is ultimately our home. Yet, if Christ is dead and there is no reward in store, this is all for nothing! How tragic to place faith in a Christ who—in the end—cannot save. Such a one is to be pitied.

As I transition, allow me to note that Christianity has endured much through the centuries. In spite of persecution, hardship, peril and more, Christianity has survived (and often thrived). Even in this time of social isolation and crisis, the Church is still at work! But the Church could not endure a dead Jesus. Remove a Risen Christ and the whole of the faith comes crashing down like a clumsily built house of cards. If it turned out that Jesus' body was definitively found, I would be among the first to abandon this religion...

But if the skeptic would have believers wrestle with our opening question (i.e., “What if Jesus never rose from the grave?”), I think it is only fair to consider the corollary. In other words, “What if Jesus did rise from the grave?”

I ask you, what are the ramifications of a Risen Christ? Allow me to note the following:

1) The Resurrection Authenticates the person of Jesus Christ

The Resurrection affirms what Jesus claimed about Himself. Please note that Jesus made immense claims about His nature

Ronald Joseph Flagg, 78

VANCOUVER, WA – Ronald Joseph Flagg passed away on March 9, 2020 in Vancouver, Washington. He was 78 years old and a 52-year resident of Clark County. Ronald was born on May 18, 1941 in Holden, Massachusetts to George and Anna Flagg (Jefferson, Mass.). Ronald and his wife Patricia (Allen) of Rutland, moved from Massachusetts to Battle Ground, WA in December 1968 before finally residing in their Vancouver (Hockinson) home in 1978 until his passing.

He was employed at Alcoa/ VanExco and Columbia Machine

prior to retirement. He enjoyed being outdoors, spending time with family and friends, hunting, fishing and playing cribbage. Ronald was always the one to jump in and lend a helping hand. He was often a man of few words, but always had a twinkle of omeriness in his eyes. His loving heart and feisty spirit will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; son, Glen Flagg of Vancouver, WA; daughter Michelle and Robert Johnson of



Camas, WA; brother, Richard Flagg of Vancouver, WA; grandson, Cam Johnson of Camas, WA and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Per the family a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Brown's Funeral Home in Camas, WA has been entrusted to the arrangements. Please sign the guestbook at <http://www.brownsfh.com>. or The Columbian at www.columbian.com/obits.

Amerigo “Mike” Simeone, 89



BARRE — Amerigo “Mike” Simeone, 89, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2020 in the Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center in Worcester. Mike is survived by his beloved wife of 68 years, Fannie (Maio); two sons, Gary (wife Susan) of West Brookfield and Robert (wife Marlene) of Barre; a daughter-in-law Lynda of West Boylston; five grandchildren, Jeffrey, Jennifer and Rebekah, Andrew and Therese, their spouses/partners and many nieces, nephews and friends. He was predeceased by a son, Michael and two brothers, Nicholas and Gildo.

Born on Nov. 11, 1930, he was the son of Giuseppe and Rosina (Mallozzi) Simeone. A lifelong resident of Barre, Mike graduated from Barre High School in 1948. He is a Navy veteran of the Korean war, enlisting in August 1948 and honorably discharged as a Radioman 3rd class in August 1952. He married the same year and began the next phase of his life, attending school in the evenings and operating his own restaurant in town for several years. Upon completing his two years at Worcester Jr. College, he entered the Data Processing field with employment at Monarch Life in Springfield. He continued employment in the same field at William E. Wright Co. in West Warren and eventually retired from the same company with a brief employment span

at Hanover Insurance Company.

Mike generously offered his time and service to the community in various capacities. He served on the St. Thomas-a-Becket Parish Council and Maintenance & Grounds Committee while a life-long parishioner of St. Thomas-A-Becket/St. Francis Assisi Parish. He was a past member and Commander of George L. Thorng American Legion Post 404 as well as a lifelong member of Post 2 American Legion. Also, he was a past Commander for the Worcester County American Legion and Department Vice Commander, Commonwealth of Mass American Legion. He was one of the founding members of the board for the Barre Rescue Squad, and also a member of the Planning Board and Council on Aging for the town of Barre. Mike was a volunteer worker for the Special Olympics and 38 years serving as a part time Barre Police Officer retiring in 1996. He also volunteered as Manager/Coach for Barre Little League during his sons tenures in the program.

Mike had an outgoing personality and made friends easily with his infectious smile. He could start up a conversation with a perfect stranger and it would appear that they were best friends in just a matter of moments. He was a



proud veteran and wore all uniforms admirably. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, gardening, golfing and passed his love of these on to his children. The family would like to thank the staff at Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center who took such good care of Mike over the past several years.

A private graveside service with military honors will be held in St. Josephs Cemetery in Barre. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in his name to the Barre Senior Center 557 South Barre Road, Barre MA 01005. Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre is directing arrangements.

DEATH NOTICES

Flagg, Ronald J.
Died March 9, 2020
Celebration of Life
at a later date
Brown's Funeral Home

Simeone, Amerigo
Died April 9, 2020
Celebration of life
at a later date
Pillsbury Funeral Home

THE BARRE GAZETTE – *Serving the towns of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham & Rutland since 1834*

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

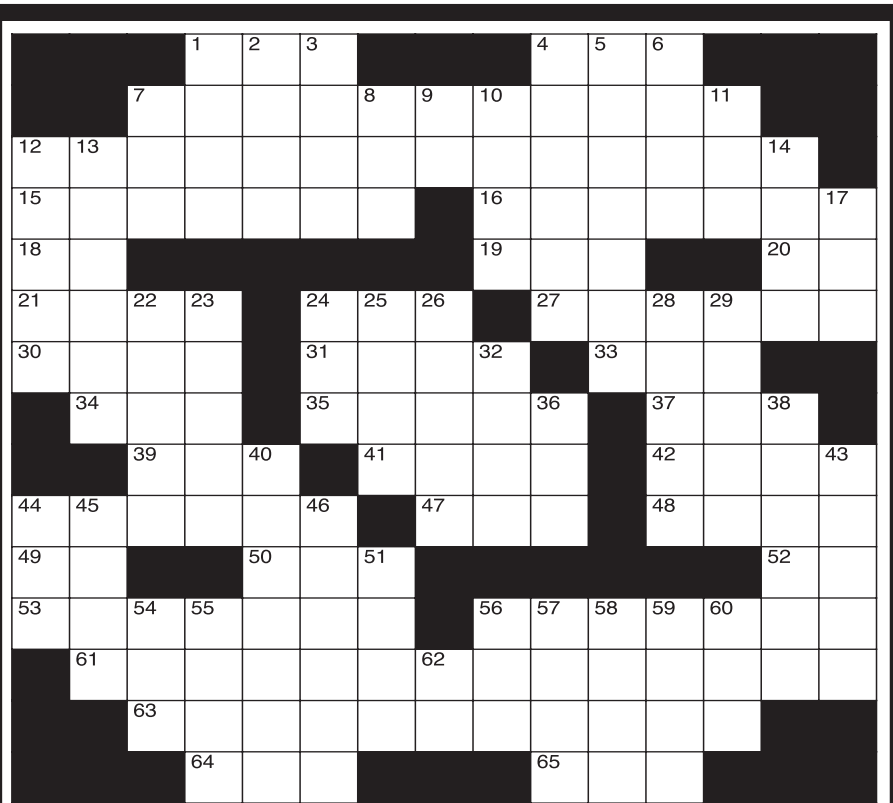
Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



CLUES ACROSS

- Germanic mythological god
- Cash machine
- Improvement
- What voters want
- Sheepish
- Trent Reznor's band
- Commercial
- Amounts of time
- English broadcaster
- Rolls of tobacco
- Position
- Expresses pleasure
- Corporate exec (abbr.)
- Body part
- Bleated
- Businessman
- Beats per minute
- Defunct Italian

monetary unit

- Broken branch
- Put in advance
- Arrest
- Prefix indicating adjacent to
- Artificial intelligence
- Disfigure
- The Fighting Irish (abbr.)
- Not in any place
- Predict
- A system of getting stuff from one place to another
- Philosophy of the principles of things
- US gov't office (abbr.)
- Seaborgium's former name (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Network connector
- Primordial matter

- Get up
- Uncoordinated
- Ill-fated cruise ship
- Work hard
- Drivers' speed
- Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- Healthcare pro
- Egyptian Sun god
- Expresses the negative
- Some are three-legged
- Clothing manufacturer
- Close by
- Tooth caregiver
- Housing material
- Flows through
- Founder of Babism
- Honorific title
- A type of letter
- Seize and hold firmly
- Artery

- Body fluids
- Press against lightly
- An island in the Pacific
- A reminder of past events
- Austrian spa town
- Peter's last name
- Something a mob might do
- Of the bones of the feet
- "Amazing Stories" writer
- Nazi-resistant youth group (abbr.)
- Used to have (Scottish)
- A way to cook
- Japanese port city
- Type of precipitation
- Engrave
- Female sibling
- Expresses emotion

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10



Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, April 5
12:27 p.m. Gunshots Old Dana Road – Unfounded
1:48 p.m. Officer Wanted Stetson Road – Returned to Family/Guardian
2:32 p.m. Officer Wanted James Street – Officer Spoke to Party
3:02 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Elm Street South – Investigated
4 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Britton Road West – Ambulance Signed Refusal
9:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Boston Turnpike – Returned to Family/Guardian

Monday, April 6
5:05 p.m. Officer Wanted Everett Road – Services Rendered
8:17 p.m. Threats Exchange Street – Investigated
9:46 p.m. Juvenile Runaway North Brookfield Road – Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, April 7
7:39 a.m. Alarm, Trouble Signal Sanderson Road – Information Given
10:29 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Marsh Road – Information Taken
3:48 p.m. Custody Dispute Union

Street – Officer Took Call
4:01 p.m. Harassment Wauwinet Road – Officer Advised
8:41 p.m. Suspicious Activity High Street South – Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, April 8
1:14 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent West Street – Confirmed Misdial
3:58 p.m. Fire, Auto/Car Main Street – Fire Extinguished
6:12 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Unknown – 209A Issued
7:05 p.m. 911 Transfer Rockingstone Road – Information Given
10:54 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Phillipston Road – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, April 9
1:31 a.m. Welfare Check Hubbardston Road – Officer Spoke to Party
9:22 p.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Cell Tower – Negative Contact

Friday, April 10
3:21 a.m. Welfare Check Hubbardston Road – Officer Spoke

to Party
10:44 a.m. Alarm, Trouble Signal Sanderson Road – Message Delivered
1:23 p.m. Traffic Hazard Summer Street – Message Delivered

Saturday, April 11
3:59 a.m. Welfare Check Hubbardston Road – Officer Spoke to Party
4:22 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Maple Lane – Transported to Hospital
5:34 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Valley Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:58 p.m. Fraud Nelson Street – Officer Spoke to Party
4:17 p.m. Animal ACO Call Vernon Avenue – In Custody of ACO
4:17 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Debra Lane – Confirmed Misdial

SOUTH BARRE

Monday, April 6
8:32 a.m. Alarm, Trouble Signal South Barre Road – Information Given

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, April 5
5:28 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Rail Trail – Public Assist

Tuesday, April 7
7:46 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency East Hill Road – Referred to Other Agency
10:54 a.m. Evidence Processing Barre Road – Report Filed

Thursday, April 9
10:45 a.m. Tree Incidents

Grace Lane – Referred to Other Agency
1:10 p.m. Harassment Tomlinson Road – Officer Took Call
4:46 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Adams Road – Referred to Other Agency
11:58 p.m. Welfare Check Robinson Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, April 10
3:07 p.m. Larceny Old Turnpike

Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, April 11
5:45 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Scott Road – Negative Contact
8:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled Worcester Road – Vehicle Removed
11:23 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Bullard Road – Confirmed Misdial

Hubbardston Police Log

Sunday, April 5
8:39 a.m. Property Lost and Found Rte. 62 – Investigated
2:43 p.m. Dirt bike Accident Personal Injury Pitcherville Road – Transported to Hospital
5:42 p.m. Welfare Check Old Princeton Cutoff Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:45 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Old Princeton Cutoff Road – Public Assist
9:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Boston Turnpike – Returned to Family/Guardian

Monday, April 6
5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Check Gardner Road – Party Departed Without Incident

Tuesday, April 7
12:46 a.m. Building/Property Check Old Boston Turnpike – Party

Departed Without Incident
10:05 a.m. Officer Initiated Gardner Road – Party Departed Without Incident

Wednesday, April 8
10:23 a.m. Suspicious Activity Healdville Road – Negative Contact
3:07 p.m. Animal Complaint Worcester Road – Animal Returned to Owner
5:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
8:42 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Underwood Road – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, April 9
10:39 a.m. Suspicious Activity Geordie Lane – Negative Contact
11:45 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Old Princeton Cutoff Road – Transported to Hospital
1:17 p.m. Tree Incidents Ed Clark

Road – Removed Hazard
7:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident No Fire/EMS Response Gardner Road – Report Filed
8 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Streeter Road – Confirmed Misdial

Friday, April 10
10:14 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Old Boston Turnpike – Confirmed Misdial

Saturday, April 11
5:41 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Gardner Road – Referred to Other Agency
2:43 p.m. Health Hazard Natty Brook Road – Officer Spoke to Party
11:03 p.m. Disturbance, Noise Complaint Halfrey Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, April 5
10:23 a.m. Welfare Check Glenwood Road – Services Rendered
1:05 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital
3:09 p.m. Disturbance, Motor Vehicle Bigelow Road – Area Search Negative
5:28 p.m. Fire, Mutual Aid Ambulance Worcester Road – Referred to Other Agency
9:12 p.m. Suspicious Activity Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party
9:24 p.m. Fire, Automatic Fire Alarm Arline Drive – Investigated

Monday, April 6
10:08 a.m. Illegal Dumping Emerald Road – Message Delivered
11:24 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Carly Circle – Transported to Hospital
12:57 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent East Hill Road – Information Taken
4:13 p.m. Fire, Smoke Investigation Campbell Court – Fire Extinguished
6:32 p.m. Animal ACO Call East County Road – Animal Brought to Pound
8:51 p.m. Welfare Check Rutland Dispatch – Call Transferred
9:08 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Hickory Drive – Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, April 7
1:39 a.m. Officer Wanted Milne Road – Investigated
7:27 a.m. Officer Wanted Beechwood Drive – Returned to

Family/Guardian
1:13 p.m. Illegal Dumping Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party
2:47 p.m. Animal Lost and/or Found Clealand Circle – Animal Brought to Pound
3:56 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Unknown – Confirmed Misdial
3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party
9:45 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Sedona Circle – Officer Spoke to Party
10:01 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s) Main Street – Negative Contact

Wednesday, April 8
9:58 a.m. Parking Violation Central Tree Road – Area Patrolled
10:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Emerald Road – Officer Spoke to Party
3:10 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Unknown – Confirmed Misdial
6:37 p.m. Suspicious Activity Main Street – Investigated
7:54 p.m. Assist Other Police Department Pommogussett Road – Services Rendered

Thursday, April 9
9:12 a.m. Officer Wanted Lynnwood Drive – Officer Took Call
9:16 a.m. Alarm, Commercial Glenwood Road – Officer Spoke to Party
10:54 a.m. Trespassing Inwood Road – Officer Spoke to Party
4:55 p.m. Notification Philips Avenue – Officer Advised
9:08 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/

Abandoned/Silent Campbell Street – Confirmed Misdial
10:18 p.m. Custody Dispute Miles Road – Public Assist
10:50 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Highland Park Road – Confirmed Misdial

Friday, April 10
9:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Personal Injury East County Road – Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Teisha M. Vincent, 41, Webster
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
10:27 a.m. Property Dispute Kenwood Drive – Officer Spoke to Party
10:48 a.m. Officer Wanted Bushy Lane – Officer Spoke to Party
11:48 a.m. Harassing/Annoying Phone Calls Main Street – Services Rendered
5:26 p.m. Officer Wanted Main Street – Services Rendered
6:11 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Forest Hill Drive – Confirmed Misdial
7:46 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Main Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, April 11
10:43 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s) Newman Drive – Officer Spoke to Party
11:21 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned/Silent Prospect Street – Confirmed Misdial

Hardwick Police Log

Monday, April 6
9:49 a.m. 911 – Elevator Calls/ Alarms Old Petersham Road – Dispatch Handled
2:25 p.m. Phone – Harassment North Street – Services Rendered
2:53 p.m. Phone – Disturbance Hardwick Road – Peace Restored
9:23 p.m. 911 – Complaint Church Lane – Spoken To
10:48 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Hardwick Road – Services Rendered

Tuesday, April 7
3:31 p.m. Initiated – Investigation

High Street – Investigated

Wednesday, April 8
8:15 p.m. Phone – 911/Hang-up Call Broad Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, April 9
7:15 a.m. Initiated – Suspicious Activity Petersham Road – Officer Handled

Friday, April 10
3:12 p.m. Phone – Complaint Barre Road – Could Not Locate

Saturday, April 11
4:11 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued

Sunday, April 12
1:57 p.m. Phone – Fire, Illegal Burn/Permit Barre Road – Extinguished
7:16 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital

New Braintree Police Log

Monday, April 6
7:12 p.m. 911 – Animal Call West Brookfield Road – Removed Hazard

Tuesday, April 7
4:35 p.m. Initiated – Investigation Ware Road – Investigated

Wednesday, April 8
8:20 p.m. Phone – Assist Other Agency Hardwick Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, April 11
5:17 p.m. Phone – Complaint/ Motor Vehicle Operations Dennis Whitney Road – Spoken To

5:27 p.m. 911 – Misdial Gilbertville Road – Spoken To
9:20 p.m. Phone – Complaint Bernard Whitney Road – Spoken To

Sunday, April 12
7:52 p.m. Phone – Fire Alarm Bernard Whitney Road – Services Rendered

Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No. WO20P0886EA
Estate of:
Richard B Howe
Date of Death: 02/08/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Patricia H Humphrey** of Westminster MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: **Patricia H Humphrey**

of Westminster MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/28/2020**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 24, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
4/16/2020

BARRE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
The Barre Planning Board will hold a virtual public hearing via Zoom on **Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** requested by Christopher Patrick Higgins and Ronald Carr Higgins for High Hawk Farm LLC, marijuana facility, to be located at 101 Daunt Road, Assessors Map D, Lot 32 per the Code of the Town of Barre, Chapter140-11.2 Adult and Medical Marijuana and Marijuana Establishments.
All persons who wish to comment should submit comments to barboards@townofbarre.com prior to public hearing to the Planning Board.
Douglas Martin
Chairman
4/16/2020

SERMONS, continued from page 9

and work. For instance:
-He declared Himself to be the Bread of Life (cf. John 6:35 – Source of Spiritual Nourishment and Life)
-He declared Himself to be the Light of the World (cf. John 8:12 – The Sole and Ultimate Arbiter of Truth)
-He declared Himself to be the Door or the Gate (cf. John 10:7 – The Only Access Point to Life Eternal)
-He declared Himself to be the Good Shepherd (cf. John 10:11–14 – Sovereign Care of His Own)
-He declared Himself to be the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25 – Master Over Death/Life)
-He declared Himself to be the Way–Truth–Life (cf. John 14:6 – Gateway to Life and Truth)
-He declared Himself to be the True Vine (cf. John 15:1, 5 – Source of Life and Vitality)
These are claims that no one in their right mind would make. If He were still dead, we could rightly label Jesus a liar or a luna-

tic (to draw upon the writings of C. S. Lewis). But what do we call Him if He truly did rise from the grave? Lord!
2) The Resurrection Authenticates the message of Jesus Christ
When you consider the Gospel record, Jesus was the consummate Teacher! His words endure through the ages, touching upon every facet of life and living. Please feel free to explore the teachings of Jesus Christ—as recorded in Scripture. They will take a lifetime to study, digest and apply, but you will find it worth the investment!
Thus said, if Christ was dead, we would have every permission to dismiss and disregard His teaching. But if He is alive, we have every obligation to embrace and hearken to His words. After all, if Jesus did conquer death, that is a striking evidence that He and His message were of God! And if His message is from God, we are accountable for the manner in which we obey it.
3) The Resurrection Authenticates the promises of Christ
A promise is only as trustworthy as the person making it. If an unreliable person makes me a promise, I hope for the best but prepare for the

worst! If a reliable person makes a promise, I am much more inclined to place my hope in its eventual fulfillment.
Thus said, Jesus promised on several occasions to rise from death. If He failed to keep His promise in this area, how can we trust Him in any area? Wouldn't this destroy His credibility? Yet if He kept His word, conquering death, then all of His promises hold true!
Have you ever considered the promises of Christ? They are glorious to study and better to believe. For your benefit, here is a sampling of His promises (cf. Matt. 7:7–8; Matt. 11:28–30; John 10:10; John 14:1–3; John 3:16).
In summary, apart from the happenings of Easter the whole of the Christian faith would collapse. But if Jesus did rise from death, His Person, Message and Promises would be affirmed. Ultimately, what do you believe and are you living according to that conviction?
I end with the words of C. S. Lewis: “Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.” May the Lord open your heart to the glories of the Risen Christ! Happy Easter and beyond!

Pastor James Foley
New Life Assembly of God

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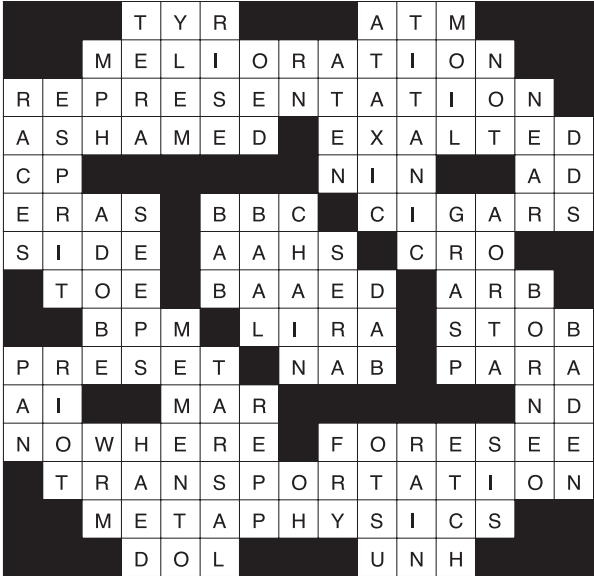
Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



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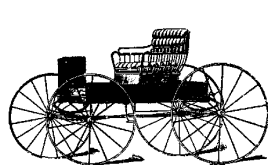
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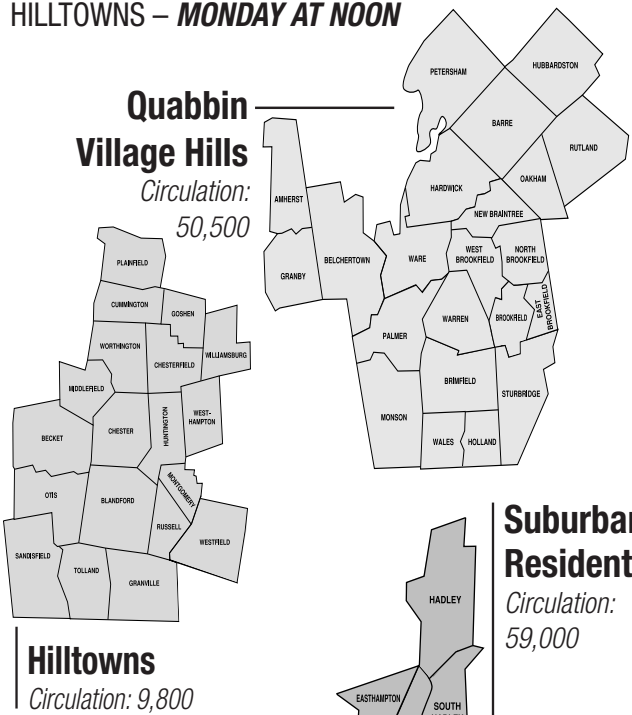
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Turley Publications Submitted Photo
Second Chance Worcester Community Veterinary patient Izzy visiting for an appointment. Inside Izzy's carrier were homemade masks and a gift card along with a thank you note to Second Chance for remaining open during the COVID-19 crisis.

Second Chance continues to help pets

EAST BROOKFIELD – COVID-19 may have forced Second Chance Animal Services to reschedule their annual dinner auction to Oct. 3, but the nonprofit will not let the postponement interfere with the important work of serving pets that need help right now. Pets will continue to need medical care and emergencies will happen, so Second Chance continues to care for pets with urgent medical needs at their three Community Veterinary Hospitals.

“For twenty years, the annual dinner auction has provided major funding for all the

Second Chance programs that help pets in need,” said Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato. “Right now, the need is great. All three of our vet hospitals are seeing a dramatic increase in pets needing urgent medical care. We need to be here for all these pets.” To conserve surgical supplies, all non-essential surgeries have been rescheduled and they are directing all emergency surgeries to the North Brookfield vet hospital, which has an increased surgical capacity and an advanced care unit for critical patients. Additional safeguards have been put in place to protect the staff and pet

owners so they can remain open and caring for those in need.

According to the nonprofit’s Facebook page, on a recent day two very sick dogs arrived at Second Chance’s Springfield hospital within an hour of each other, both requiring emergency surgery. Both patients’ care was transferred to the North Brookfield hospital where medical staff worked well into the night, saving both their lives.

“We are touched by the support of pet owners, who are grateful we’ve been able to stay open with precautions in place.” Second Chance hospital staff bring pets into the hospital and

while pet owners talk to the doctors from the safety of their cars. “At our Worcester hospital, one pet owner stashed homemade masks and a gift card inside their cat’s carrier, along with a note thanking Second Chance for staying open to care for everyone’s babies.”

Blancato added that she knows times are challenging right now for everyone. For those who are able to help, donations can be made online at secondchanceanimals.org/donate, on the Second Chance Facebook page or via mail to 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

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